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GARBAGE GAZETTE



Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

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Poster Calendar Contest Winners Selected

The twelve winners in Connecticut DEPs' Recycling Program Poster Contest for 4th, 5th and 6th grade students have been selected. Each participating school was required to hold its' own contest and then send one winner per grade level to DEP. A total of 74 posters were received at the state level. The winners will receive their awards at a ceremony to be held at the DEP Capitol building in Hartford. Lieutenant Governor M. Jodi Rell and DEP Commissioner Sidney J. Holbrook will present the children with their awards. All posters entered in the state contest will be displayed in the upper concourse of the Legislative Office Building during the month of January.

The winning posters have been used to illustrate a calendar for 1996. The theme this year is "Choose To Reuse...It's the Latest News!" The posters will serve as reminder throughout the year of how to reduce waste and help the environment by reusing things that were once considered trash and by substituting reusable, durable products for disposable products. A supply of calendars has been sent to every school in Connecticut. Calendars are available now to anyone while supplies last. These colorful calendars are suitable for home, office, or school. To receive a calendar(s), contact Meg Enkler at (860)424-3365.

The following are the winners of this years contest. Special congratulations go out to those schools who have had a winner for two years in a row. Those schools are: St Marthas' School in Enfield, Doolittle School in Cheshire and Har-Bur School in Burlington.

4th grade

Michael Betancur, Edgewood Elementary,
New Haven

Stephanie Dwy, St. Francis School, Naugatuck

Sandy Sillo, South School, New Canaan

Shelli Ann Boucher, St. Martha School,
Enfield

5th grade

Rebecca Patenaude, Strong School,
Southington

Stephanie Stanio, Peck Place School, Orange

5th grade (con't)

Bridget Holmes, St. Marys' School, Bethel

Jenna Jaroslow, Doolittle School, Cheshire

6th grade

Suzanne Curran, St. Peter School, Danbury

Dan Fabbri, Tomlinson School, Fairfield

Matthew Gorman, Har-Bur Middle School,
Burlington

Mark Caleb, Turn of the River School,
Stamford

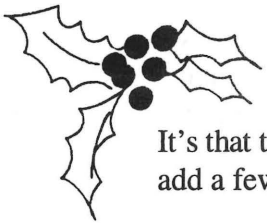
"Recycling Hits the Runway"

The October Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Recyclers Coalition (CRC), held at the University of Hartford, featured a recycled products fashion show titled, "Recycling Hits the Runway". Kevin Lemanowicz, Chief Meteorologist, WTIC TV, Fox 61 was the announcer for the 45-minute long program. The program showcased not only apparel, but also a variety of household goods, personal care products, furniture, yard tools and office supplies. Fashions were modeled by a number of local notables including state legislators, local first selectman, CT DEP and municipal/regional recycling staff, hauling industry representatives, environmental attorneys, university employees and seven of the local garbage men featured in Morra Designs' 1996 calendar "Garbage men of Connecticut".

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The program followed a day in the life of recycler and provided examples of how recycled products can now be part of every aspect of our lives. Some of the products featured included recycled fleece jackets, pants, hats, mittens and even infant snowsuits, all produced from post-consumer #1 plastic bottles. Gloves and ski jackets which utilize insulation made from old soda bottles were also showcased. Recycled rubber inner tubes find new life as vests, backpacks, briefcases and even a stylish kilt. Several models sported recycled jewelry made from recycled aluminum, old car head lights and magazines. Respun cotton and fabric remnants from the clothing industry found their way into T-shirts and colorful hats. Tyvek ProtectiveWear, made from old #2 plastic milk jugs, was also featured. Footwear from DEJA Shoe and Reebok, produced from a variety of recycled materials, were worn by several models. Ties made from old tires were only one of the numerous accessories that complemented several models outfits. The program was videotaped. An edited video of the event is expected to be available at some time in the near future. Please contact Kathy Dube, CRC Secretary at 522-2217 or Evelyn Golden, CRC Vice-President at 658-7172 for details.

Artwork from the students who entered the CRC Recycled Sculpture Contest, "The Beauty of Recycling" was on display at the event. Contest winners and their families were in attendance to watch the show and receive their awards. CRC is very grateful to all of the companies and retailers who donated or loaned items for this event.



Holiday Tips for Waste Reduction and Recycling

It's that time of year again, and to celebrate we'd like to recycle some of last years' holiday tips and add a few new ones as well.

*Purchase holiday cards made from recycled paper with the highest post-consumer content you can find.

* Don't forget to keep a few canvas or string bags in the car to use for all of your holiday shopping.

*Make this the year you do without wrapping paper. Use the comics, an inexpensive new towel, scarf, decorator tin or box instead. Your wrapping paper becomes part of the gift, not more holiday trash.

* Buy gifts with post-consumer content. There are many specialty stores which carry whole lines of items made from recycled materials.. Many major retailers are also carrying these products as well. A few ideas include: any of the apparel items listed in the fashion show article (recycled fleece, recycled shoes or respun cotton) stationary or other office products, a composting bin made from recycled plastic, reused computer disks, or even lawn furniture or garden planters made from recycled plastic and/or wood.

* Once the holidays are over, send your old cards to St Judes' Ranch for Children, 100 St. Jude Street, Boulder City, NV 89005. They accept all-occasion cards and will trim the cards and paste them on to new backs.

* For the hard-to-shop for loved one, make a donation to an environmental group that promotes recycling. For the child whose room is already overflowing with toys, sponsor an environmental activity like a bus to visit one of Connecticut's two trash museums for his/her classroom. For that special classroom teacher who loves science, purchase a vermicomposting bin and resource materials so that his/her class can practice indoor composting.

* Use only reusable decorations on your holiday tree. Avoid items like tinsel which are hard to take off and reuse again. Keep in mind that if your town is chipping the trees for mulch, non-organic materials should not remain on the tree when it is put out for collection.



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